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CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN HON. HENRY
LAURENS AND HIS SON, JOHN, 1777-1780.

[Continued from the July number.]

[13.]

Head Quarters 17th feb^r. 1779.

My dear father.

I had the pleasure of writing to you, soon after my arrival at Camp—and have been since anxiously expecting farther intelligence from Georgia—If it be true that Spain is at length so-enlightened on her own interests as to espouse those of America—I am inclined to think that feeble state will speedily be delivered from its present invaders—Such an event or the adoption of my black project alone can save her—if the first be a delusive report—I wish to know whether you think that the force of example, Argument, and above all that of impending Calamity will determine our Countrymen—to embrace the Salutory measure which I propose—if you think my dear father that the chances are for us—we cannot too soon execute our parts—you will have the glory of triumphing over deep rooted national prejudices, in favor of your Country and humanity at large—the former may perhaps have reason to call you her deliverer— The sacrifice you make, will be effaced by the most delicious and enviable feelings—

For my part it will be my duty and my pride, to transform the timid Slave into a firm defender of Liberty and render him worthy to enjoy it himself—

The respect and attachment which I have for the General—the friendship which I have for my Colleagues—will make even a temporary separation from them, a subject of great regret—and nothing could determine me to do it but a certain prospect of being more extensively useful— The General has been as polite as to say that he will be sorry to lose me even for a time—but that he will not object to my going— The nature of my profession separates me from my dearest friend—and it is natural for me not to quit an agreeable military situation—without some assurance of rendering greater services elsewhere—

But I must finish—I entreat that I may hear from my dear Father as soon as possible—and am ever his most affectionate

John Laurens.

Endorsed: John Laurens

17th. february 1779

[14.]

Head Quarters 10th march -79

My dear father.

You will have perceived by my last, that granting the probability of obtaining an act for raising black troops in South Carolina—no time in my opinion was to be lost in applying for it, under the sanction of a Recommendation from Congress—

When I reflect that the present season in that country affords very good fighting weather—that much time will be required for the Journey—that some delays may arise in our Council and Assembly, from the opposition of private interest—that collecting the Levies, at a general rendezvous—from remote parts—and exchanging the unfit for service that will be sent in the first instance—that *transforming* them into soldiers & providing them with Arms

Appointments &c are all works of time— I must confess I am anxious—for if I am engaged in a plan of this kind my reputation is at stake— And a regard to that, would induce me to spend as much time as possible in disciplining and instructing my soldiers before I introduced them to the enemy—while a desire to render service on the other hand would make me sollicitous to bring them into the field in the active part of the Campaign—

As a Soldier, as a Citizen, as a Man—I am interested to engage in this work—and I would cheerfully sacrifice the largest portion of my future expectations to its success—

I believe I have in this & former letters—nearly said all that can be offered by me on this subject—at present—Your counsel will be necessary to remove many difficulties—and digest a plan to be laid before the Legislature of South Carolina— My letters will prove to you that this subject occupies my thoughts very much—

I embrace you with all my heart—and am ever my dear
fathers

most affectionate

John Laurens.

Endorsed: John Laurens 10 March
1779 Rec^d. 12th—

[15.]

Addressed: Lieut^t. Col^o. John Laurens
Aid de Camp to His Excellency
the Commander in Chief of
all the American forces—
South Carolina--

Philadelphia 18th April 1779.

My dear Son.

I had the pleasure of writing to you the day before yesterday by Messenger Durst. last evening the packet which will accompany this came to me under cover from Col^o. Hamilton, he says it contains two Letters from your M^r. Laurens which puts me in mind to forward that which I

told you had been illicitly opened. You will also receive two Letters directed to M^r J. Walton, one to M^r. E. Telfair & one to Count Pulaski which I recommend to the protection of M^r. Gervais or yourself.

The Marquis Britaigne who will be the bearer of this is anxious that I should recommend him to Governor Rutledge. That will be done Marquis, in pursuance of an Act of Congress by the President— Ah! but I am not acquainted with M^r Jay.

I then promised him to write to M^r. Gervais & to you, although he is personally acquainted with both, which gave him satisfaction; certainly if I were in Charles Town & the Marquis there too, I would shew him every mark of civility & attention, & I am persuaded my friends will answer for me.


This Gentleman's zeal in our cause must have cost him several Thousands of Louis d'ors, besides much personal suffering; he has been waiting upon Congress almost a whole Year in humble dependence, free from that inquietude which from almost all his Countrymen we have been witnesses of, & yet, there has been great stumbling at a proposition for allowing him 5000. Paper equal to about 400. Silver Dollars, nor did we surmount the difficulty in *one step*—first 3000. then 2000—carefully adding “he to be accountable.” we swallow Camels & strain at gnats.

Our friend Baron Stüben had intimated expectations of pretty large pecuniary compensation, for his expences coming to & in America over & above the pay of Major General, and also for his own expences & those of M^r. Fleury, M^r. L'enfant & M^r. Duponceau, a Report was thereupon introduced from the Board of War, the whole seemed to me, to be incongruous with his propositions at his arrival in York Town, I was therefore induced to call for certain documents & papers relative to the subject in order to enlighten such of our Members as would otherwise have been ignorant, but I made no opposition to the Report, some busy Body must have taken an advantage of my conduct & misrepresented

me to the Baron, otherwise the following dialogue three days ago when he dined with me could never have happened.

What is the reason Mr. Laurens that Congress will not allow me my expences, I told them I was not Rich & I am sure the Committee at York Town promised me.

Why Baron I cannot answer for the conduct of Congress, for my own part I would recommend to you not to press that subject at the present moment, every Member of Congress is sensible of your merit & deserving, I cannot just now so fully assign reasons, as I may at a future time, but if I were to advise, you would delay your demands until our affairs shall be a little better arranged.

 his declarations to me at York Town were that he would expect nothing till the end of the War his running expences excepted—Congress gave him two or four Horses & a Commission of Major General, paid all his Expences at & travelling from Boston at York Town &c—

Well replied the Baron, for myself I will take your advice I will ask nothing yet—I will go to the Army & proceed in my duty—but why will they not do something for Fleury & the other young Gentlemen who have assisted me in my work?

Congress Sir, will undoubtedly do everything that is just & reasonable, there's no Man who has a greater esteem & affection for Col^o. Fleury than I have, but let us consider a little Baron is not Mr Fleury now within one grade of Generalship, how long must he have served in his own Country before he would have arrived at this eminence, with large & honorable testimonials in his pocket.

But my dear Mr. Laurens, Mr. President he cannot live by his appointment, & he must go home if you do not do something for him.

You very well know Baron, the state of our Army & the state of our finances—if the case be so, that Col^o. Fleury cannot stay with us unless Congress will do something more

for him & that Congress cannot do any thing more for him, the consequence will be that he must go home, I shall be very sorry for it.—

The Baron, in no small shew of Choler & rage, although in presence of 4 or 5 other guests, answered, Then, I shall go home, I will not stay.

O Baron Baron, you had just determined the contrary, excuse me for saying, this is really taking advantage of my candor, you will make me more cautious hereafter if you persist in these sentiments—what else could I have said, speaking as an honest Man, if Col^l. Fleury cannot continue with us upon his present appointments & Congress will not because they cannot, with propriety, enlarge them—& he himself points out the alternative, what else could I have said, but I hope Baron you will not make me answerable for all the determinations of Congress. when I am there, I am an individual & speak my sentiments or give my voice without fear prejudice or partiality. I pray you Baron think better of this matter. We went to dinner, the Baron looked grave, I made attempts to raise him, he retired earlier than usual & if I do not mistate with a consciousness of a little transgression. The Deanites are incessant in their endeavors to raise a dis-esteem for me in the minds of foreigners, but they make no more impression upon mine than they would upon adamant with a Goose quill. I will endeavor to do right, if I do not gain *their* applause, I shall nevertheless enjoy an assurance of having deserved it—to be an honest Statesman produces a Man some troubles, but not so many I believe as attends a dissembling knavish one, therefore I'll pursue the old track. I could recite another conversation with a greater Man than Baron Stuben which would more than equally astonish you, but, *it wont do*. & I think the irregular measures which are adopted are arguments, proving, why it ought not.

When Baron Stuben first addressed Congress he produced a Letter from Mr. Deane announcing him Lieutenant General & Quarter Master General in the King of Prussia's Army,

hence I was led to give him the Title of Excellency, in my early correspondence; sometime after he went to Camp at Valley forge I was well informed that he had never advanced near the Rank of Lieutenant General, the Baron did not say to me that he had, but he did not disown it. Mr. Deane intimated that at some former time he had seen his Commissions, but that when he was about to leave Paris in order to embark for America he was not possessed of them, having left them in Germany, & this moment it strikes me, that the Baron might have misconstrued & misapplied my question, How long must Col^o. Fleury have served? &c—but upon my honor I had no design to touch him nor, as I have said above, did I ever think of the subject in this light until the present Instant. however if he has committed himself it 's not my fault. if he felt any thing like an attack it was from within his own Breast, neither duty nor inclination could possibly have misled me to upbraid a Man with whom I wished to have continued in friendship. but the times are distempered & the Devils of avarice & ambition are indefatigably improving them to their own advantage.

20th.

'Tis rumored the Enemy have taken the town of Providence, I do not believe it— You will see the News Papers in Mr. Gervais's hands—tell me if my Country Men wish me to remain here, I don't mean a few of them, but generally.

I pray God bless & protect you

Henry Laurens.

Lieut^t. Colonel Laurens
South Carolina.

Endorsed: H. L—to J—

Philadelphia 18th. April 1779.

[16.]

Addressed: Lieut. Colonel John Laurens.
Aid de Camp to His Excellency
the Commander in Chief of the
American forces.
now at South Carolina.

Philadelphia 5th June 1779.

My Dear Son—

I had the honor of writing to you under the 30th Ult^o. since which we have received no accounts from Carolina—what! has our State determined not to correspond with Congress? The Lieut. Governor's late Letter to the Gov^r. of Virginia seemed to menace somewhat like it.

General M^cIntosh will tell you more news than I should be able to write in a whole day & you will see the News Papers in the hands of Mr. Gervais—some four or five summer like days have extracted the gouty pains which I had complained of for a fortnight before, but my leg continues in a precarious state.

I pray God to bless & protect
you

Henry Laurens.

Lieut. Colonel John Laurens
South Carolina.

Endorsed: H. L. to J. L.—
Philadelphia 5th. June 1779

[17.]

Philadelphia, 17th. July 1779.

My Dear Son.

My last communication is dated the 10th Inst. it was forwarded by the hands of Sickles a public Messenger.

Yours of the 2^d. June written I perceive with your left hand reached me no earlier than the 12th Inst. this is the Letter which Mr. Leger left in the custody of Col^o. Finnie; you

refer me very particularly to an antecedent date, but none such respecting Military operations in & about Charles Town have I seen. recollect if you can, its date & by whom you transmitted it. & I will endeavor to discover the defaulter or the delinquent.

Dunlap's Paper of this Morning does not inform us as I had expected it would, of the operations of the American Duke d'Alva, late Governor Tryon in Connecticut, he landed at New Haven burnt part & probably the whole of that Town penetrated to & burnt all Fairfield said to be one of the prettiest Towns in America. the Militia assembled, attacked him & he fled to his Ships—this is a general sketch warranted by Rivington of the 10th Inst. with this difference, he says re-embarked. I wish the title of d'Alva may be so fixed on Tryon as to be transmitted to posterity & his memory held in everlasting contempt.

Yesterday we received in Congress dispatches from the Honorable Arthur Lee Esq^r—containing as complete a vindication, of his own & his Brother William's conduct, as I have ever seen in any case, every charge of Deane's 5th. Decem. refuted, every article supported by vouchers—what a worse figure will this bad servant make before his fellow Citizens to whom he appealed, when his narrative of 139 Pages of vanity, misrepresentation, falsehood & contradiction shall pass under the harrow of Lee's Pen—those who have hitherto been his supporters, appeared to be unhappy while the Papers were reading. tell my friends they will find, that my resignation on the 9th. December was, as I then said to them, the greatest act of my Life. ^s

I have heard nothing lately from head Quarters—the very plentiful harvest, which we have now secured, leads to animation, we are talking of an immediate array of ten or twelve Thousand good Militia, these to join the Commander in Chief & to attack New York; a motion made by Mr. Dickinson seconded by Mr Drayton that Congress should

^s See *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. XIII, p. 232.

join the Army & act en Militaire—this shews more of valour in those Gentlemen than of the wisdom & reflection of grave Senators, but who can restrain the ardor of fighting Men when an opportunity offers? the Motion is on the Table for consideration when it can be taken up consistently with Order.

If I may judge of the state of your Carolina air, from the Philadelphia Thermometer you have hitherto had very tolerable weather, I was just now obliged to throw off a lined-silk, & to cover my body with a Cloth flannel-lined, waistcoat, & I took a little Cold last night by lying under only a thick Cotton coverlid. we have not experienced one intolerable day the present Summer.

I say nothing of my private affairs I know you will aid Mr. Gervais in taking as much thought for them as times will admit of. I remain here under the Commands of my fellow Citizens when my inclinations strongly bend homeward, 'tis high time I were there.

I pray God to bless & protect
you

Henry Laurens.

36 days since we heard
from So Carolina —
I interpret nothing amiss
from this silence.

Col^o. John Laurens
South Carolina—

Endorsed: H. L.—to J. L.—
Philadelphia 17th. July 1779.

[18.]

Addressed: John Laurens Esquire
Lt. Colonel in the Army
& Aid de Camp to
His Excellency Gen: Washington
Charles Town
South Carolina.

Philadelphia 23^d July 1779.

My Dear Friend.

I had the pleasure of writing to you the 17th. Inst by Messenger Graham, we have heard nothing since from Charles Town. I feel a little anxiety to know whether & when you mean to return to Your General & lest we should miss each other on the Road, an accident, which, if it should happen, would mortify us exceedingly. but I have not marked a day for my departure, I shall quit this great House the 12th. August because I cannot afford the Rent, & go for three or four Weeks into cheaper Quarters, my Landlady who is as keen an Abigail as any I know, has outwitted herself, she wanted to raise the Rent upon me & by a miscalculation I suppose, has let it to my Neighbor Mitchel for 6 or 7 hundred pounds per Annum less than I paid—& he has made a firm contract with a penalty annexed.

Your friend Doctor Mr. Henry is in Town on his return from escorting Mr. Washington to Virginia, he will dine with me to day & we'll drink your health. I have heard nothing from Head Quarters for a long time but I purpose to write to your General by the Doctor, I would give somewhat considerable for two hours conversation with him on certain very interesting & important points. I believe I shall pay him a Visit before I leave this Country.

Col^o. Gervais, Capt McQueen & Mr. Wells will communicate to you the Contents of our latest News Papers & other scraps of intelligence which I have transmitted.

My Dear Son I pray God to bless & protect you.

Henry Laurens.

Colonel Dan. Morgan is in Town
& has applied to Congress to accept his
Commission, he complains of Gen Wayne's
appointment to Command the Corps which
should have been continued under him.
he is a good Officer & we will not part
with him, if persuasion can prevail.

I am charged by a great number of
your friends to present their Compliments
Gen Gates in a very particular manner.

Col: John Laurens.

Endorsed: H L. to J. L—

Philadelphia 23^d. July 1779.

[19.]

Philadelphia

17 Septem 1779.

My Dear Son—

My last Letter to you is dated the 31st. July—my
silence in the mean time has been owing to that uncertainty
in which I have been held respecting your continuance in
So. Carolina, every body who came from thence assured me
you were determined to come this way very soon, as I re-
main in the same disagreeable state of suspense I should not
have written to you now, had I not been charged particu-
larly with a Letter from your friend Colonel Hamilton, that
Letter accompanied by two which I suppose to be from S^r.
Mary Axe, your Letter intended for Mr. Hutson & one for
Mr^s. Petrie you will receive under the present cover.

I must refer you as usual to Mr. Gervais for News, but
I may add, we have just recd. advice from Boston that
our Frigates Boston & Deane had captured a Copper bot-
tomed British Sloop of War; the Sandwich Packet bound
from New York to Falmouth; a Vessel with 150 Pipes
Wine from Madeira; these safe in Port two New York
Privateers of 10 Guns each, a very Rich Ship from Glasgow

for N York & one or two other Vessels—these not yet arrived, on board the Glasgow-Man was a Box containing complete apparatus for counterfeiting our poor Dollars, which had been thrown overboard & recovered—Major Gardner, he who was on Port Royal Island, was taken in the Packet. you will probably see all these circumstances more particularly marked in Dunlap's Paper to morrow, I shall be early enough to send one of them.

If I do not hear from you in a few days I believe without further waiting I shall set out for Charles Town altho my own inclination to pursue duty at this very critical juncture & the requests of my friends press me strongly to remain here a little longer

I should inform you I pray God to bless You
Jack Hamm is here a prisoner in the Henry Laurens,
Character of a common Seaman, I am
afraid he has forfeited *all Character*.

Lieut. Col. John Laurens.

Endorsed: H. L. to J. L.

Philadelphia 17th. Sep^r: 1779

[20.]

Philadelphia 21st. Septem 1779

I had the pleasure my Dear Son of writing to you the 17th. Inst. by a Public Messenger, & of receiving on the 19th. by the hand of Capt. Roberts your favor of the 9th Ult^o.— This Young Gentleman will dine with me to morrow, if I can render him services more substantial than bare civilities, your recommendation will have its weight, with my own feelings respecting him as a fellow Citizen the Son of a valuable Officer who laid down his Life in the defence of America.

I knew, the pride & the naughtiness of the Hearts of so many of our fellow Citizens, would seduce them to spurn at the mode you speak of for completing our Confederate Regiments; that the avarice of others would impel them to re-

volt from the proposition for erecting black Battalions & I long since foresaw & foretold you the almost insurmountable difficulties which wou'd obstruct the progress of your liberal Ideas.—nothing wonderful in all this—Is it a light work to bring Men accustomed [one or two words obliterated] affluence & absolute command, to submit without murmuring to peremptory Orders under the penalty of Corporal punishment. And it is certainly a great task effectually to persuade Rich Men to part willingly with the very source of their wealth &, as they suppose, tranquility. You have encountered rooted habits & prejudices, than which there is not in the history of man recited, a more arduous engagement. If you succeed you will lay the corner stone for accomplishing a prediction of your Grandfather & your name will be honorably written & transmitted to posterity—but even the attempt without perfect success, will, I know, afford you unspeakable self satisfaction—The work will at a future day be efficaciously taken up & then it will be remembered who began it in South Carolina.

I prospered yesterday in carrying through a Report which I had the honor of presenting to Congress from a Commee. appointed to correspond with General Lincoln, recommending Aid to So Carolina by dispatching three frigates or Armed Ships of War & the North Carolina Brigade to Charles Town; there was much opposition to the measure from certain quarters & the Report underwent some alterations which may possibly be made use of to defeat my views, but as the execution was Committed to the Marine Board where Mr. Mathewes Acts as a Member, I have strenuously recommended the subject to his attention & I confide greatly in his zeal & fortitude.—Should we receive certain accounts of a French fleet operating on your Coast, all that we have here determined to attempt for your relief will instantly be reconsidered & probably vanish.

Gentlemen aver that the Continental Frigate [one or two words obliterated] advantage to the Port of Boston either in a Commercial & pecuniary view, or as a defence—on

the contrary the prizes which those Frigates carry in, work a prejudice to the Citizens of that Town by encouraging monopolizers & extortioners & by stripping the Port of Seamen who would otherwise be more usefully employed in the service of [word obliterated] Merchant Ships & private Ships of War—this doctrine strange as it may appear to Men of no more than common understanding, is proved & illustrated by the extreme reluctance with which Gentlemen representing Massachusetts & Boston consent to part with them only for a few Months in favor of a much distressed Sister State, but when some Men talk of defending So Carolina & of the necessary measures for recovering Georgia, methinks I hear blind Men describing Colours, or Misers haranging on liberality.

Has not So Carolina contributed her quota to the raising a Navy? Has she not a rightful claim to some of the benefits which may be derived from that Navy? Oh! but So Carolina is defended by taking the enemy's privateers from New York, & if you send our Frigates to So Carolina the Enemy will soon know it, way lay & capture them—do not the Enemy as well know when those Frigates sail from Boston on a Cruize for prizes? is it not as practicable for British Men of War from Hallifax, Rhode Island & New York to way lay them coming out of, & returning to, the Bay of Boston as going to Carolina or cruizing from thence? Did not they know of the ill concerted enterprize to Penobscot? Had I prevailed by my repeated recommendations more than twelve Months since, to send three Frigates to Cruize near Charles Town we should probably have added three or four British Frigates to our American fleet &c &c.

It has been falsely transmitted to Charles Town that I was too closely connected with the Eastern States, you have now proof of the contrary & I glory in the reproach of being with no Man, with no party longer than he or they steers or steer by the Pole Star of reason, Justice, reciprocity. when Men diverge into the Road of self Interestedness, I walk no further with them In a word, I fear I have given

offence to some of my friends If it be so, I can't help it, I would rather offend my Father than meanly or wittingly transgress against those principles—the offended will upon reflection, perceive their mistake & without suit forgive me nor will this be a strange Phœnomenon in a true account of my Pilgrimage. How many of our Confœderal Ships of War have heretofore been Captured or foolishly lost? but how many have been captured or otherwise lost in attempting to relieve or aid the Southern States? answer, my friends, these questions fairly & you will see nothing preposterous in the proposition for sending three Frigates to Charles Town—if cruizing [one or two words obliterated] Plan they will have as good Cruizing ground from thence [one or two words obliterated] any part on our side of the Atlantic & Boston will be for a little time relieved from the burthen of prizes—My very worthy friend Gen. Whipple, says in his mild & decent manner, well! well! you'll repent this scheme.—but I'll say no more I know my views are pure, my design is to promote the general good of the Union & I trust we shall be all good friends [one or two words obliterated] w.

My quandam opponent Merryweather [obliterated word] to whom I never made any approaches, is now not only placid but kind pressed me to day to take a side of his Chariot, brought me home & will eat Sturgeon with me to morrow—look at the Journal of Congress the 14th. May last &c—If Men will be——if they will do these things, how can I help it? I [one or two words obliterated] ot be illnated or inexorable.

But to return to your Letter, I expect soon to hear your schemes in Assembly have proved abortive & that you have been defeated in your first battle in the Field of Politics—should this be the case I wish indeed to know it *soon*, & to know also your determination respecting a continuance in your native clime, in order to regulate my own movements, I should begin my journey homeward in a few days were I sure of meeting you on the Road or at Ansonburgh, mean-

ing in a few days after two or three important points shall be adjusted in, as honest Mr. Duffield stiles it, the great Council of these States.

I have informed Mons^r. Girard of Mr. Plombards addresses to your Senate & House of Representatives & given him proper extracts from your Letter & from Colonel Gervais's, if the Gentleman has been misled I am in hopes he will see his error & retract before it be too late, he must not expect undue countenance either from Mons^r. Girard or from the Cheval^r La Luzerne.

You talk of a heavy tax, what will you say when Congress shall call on you for about a million & an half of Dollars per Month, a call which you must expect to hear [one or two words obliterated] the 1st. November. We have solemnly pledged ourselves [one or two words obliterated] no more paper Money when the Amount shall be 200,000,000 Dollars, as you will have read in the Circular Letter, this event will happen about the 1st. December & we have not yet determined upon one article of ways & means for replenishing the Treasury & carrying on the War. I feel more fr [two or three words obliterated] nt prospect of our affairs, than is convenient to [one or two words obliterated] paper, lest Rivington should lay his hands on my Letter & magnify.—

I am told Col^r. Laurens gives exceeding good Madeira Wine to his guests at the House in the Garden, whence I presume it must be plenty, & cheap in Charles Town, therefore I request him to lay in a pipe or two for me before Christmas. Colonel Malmadi will be the bearer of this, I don't know whether I shall be able to write to Mr Gervais by him if I do not, I pray you let this Letter [word obliterated] both. & if I send but one packet the News Papers will be found in that. I commend you to God's protection & remain My Dear Son

Your faithful friend & affectionate Father.

Henry Laurens,

Colonel John Laurens.
South Carolina.

Endorsed: H. L to J. L—
Philadelphia 21st Sep^r: 1779
at the conclusion
Madeira Wine

[21.]

Philadelphia 27th. Septem 1779.

My Dear Son.

I writ to you the 21st. Inst. by Col^o. Malmedi. the 25th. your favor supposed to have been penned the 7th. reached me, & announced the arrival of Count d'Estaing on the American Coast, if the Count has adhered to his Resolution of remaining with you only eight days, 'tis to be apprehended his achievements in Georgia & So Carolina will not excite a nine days wonder; that slackness in our Militia which you complain of, is very illy fitted to the Count's spirit for enterprize and celerity—be this as it may, I expect, at least, this good effect from his appearance, that the Enemy will scamper off & overturn the Wright government in Georgia & all its appendages, & I hope for greater things.

Congress have authorized General Washington to Co-operate with the French Admiral & General in such manner as he shall judge conducive to public good without applying to them for further directions & have strongly recommended to the middle & eastern States to give the General all possible aid of Men & provisions & also to furnish provisions of flour &c for the use of the Fleet & Army of our Ally.

That Assembly met yesterday for the sole purpose of appointing a Minister Plenepotentiary for treating with his Britanic Majesty on Peace & Commerce, an Act which in my estimation is extremely premature. Mr. Adams & Mr. Jay were nominated, the Ballots twice taken without effect—1st. Ballot 5 for Adams 4 for Jay 3 States divided—2nd.—6 for Adams. 5 for Jay—South Carolina divided—My Colleague had laboured hard two days for carrying a resolution to disqualify any Member of Congress or any one who had been a Member within nine preceeding Months for any office of trust or emolument under Congress—I opposed the Resolution but coincided in the Idea & wished it might be understood by the whole House that a Member should not be appointed, among other reasonings my Colleague in favor

of his Motion had urged, that the appointment of a Member to be a foreign Minister would be degrading; by sending one from sovereignty into servitude—you can't suppose I could hear such sentiments & forbear laughing inwardly—finding me to be clear in his opinion that on the present occasion we ought not to appoint a Member he earnestly requested me to think of a proper Character out of doors after some hours reflection I named to him M^r. John Adams as a Gentleman in every respect well qualified, against whom there could be no exception & to whom these States were much indebted—there rested the matter, until the proposed Resolution & its proposed amendment were ousted by Yeas & Nays—when the Ballots were about to be taken, my Colleague declared for M^r. Jay, I expostulated with him on what had passed between us; observed, that among other motives, I had nominated M^r. Adams on his own principles & candidly & honestly declared to him such exceptions against M^r. Jay as neither himself nor any Man could remove. he nevertheless persisted & South Carolina was deprived of a Vote, I explained to Congress in terms nearly as above written the ground of our division as an apology for my own conduct.

I think no honest Man will censure me, nor would I have it understood that I mean to censure M^r. Mathews, we are perfectly good friends & I believe him to be a very honest Man. I am also persuaded he had not been let into the secret of his self-denying motion, but this must be reserved as a subject for a future moments discussion.*

*this Morning Monday the 27th. September according to my imaginary foresight will be devoted to the appointment of a Minister Plenipotentiary to treat with the Court of Spain, on Alliance & Amity & Commerce—

M^r. Lee will be, as tis intended & expected, superseded by M^r. Jay, an avowed & inveterate Enemy—God's will be done.

these things I say to you & to my good friend Gervais, & to

no body else, unless you shall find it necessary, which I hope will never happen.

Mr. Solikifer has just informed me, that Sir Charles Hardy's Cruize had been made for reconnoitering & scouring the British Channel, finding it clear, he had returned into Port & immediately after, a fleet of upwards of forty Sail, of Merchant Men—probably under some small convoy sailed from Spithead or some port in England, these were more lucky than Sir Charles, they fell in with the french or perhaps the combined fleets, & were every skin of them conducted into Brest—this, Mr. Solikofffer says he read in a Letter from Bourdeaux 42 days old & he is gone to look for the Letter, if it comes in proper time you will receive an extract.

When I writ to Mr. Gervais yesterday I held myself confined to a moment & said I should not write to you, but a violent rain & other circumstances I suppose were impediments to Mr. Downs's departure earlier than this Morning—You will now be so good as to present my Love to my friend & communicate these contents. I learn your black Air Castle is blown up, with contemptuous huzzas—a Man of your reading & of your Philosophy will require no consolatory reasonings for reconciling him to disappointment. I pray God to bless & protect you.

Colonel John Laurens
South Carolina.

Henry Laurens.

[22.]

Philadelphia 2^d. October 1779.

My Dear Son—

I have lately written to you by divers opportunities to Charles Town directed in your absence to Colonel Gervais, from an opinion that you would have left that place & I had suggested to my friends the probability of your taking a passage in Count d'Estaing's squadron; this Idea is countenanced by intimations in your Letter of the 3^d. Septem— which I received three days since. I therefore expect this will meet you at the Head Quarters of His Excellency the Commander in Chief.

You were put in Nomination in Congress by the Honble. Mr. Gerry the 27th. Ult. for the Office of Secretary to the Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Versailles & were on the 28th. unanimously elected by eleven, or twelve, States—the Salary not fixed—£1000. St^s recommended in a Report, I shall oppose every thing above £700.—but from what fund or funds is even that Sum to be paid?—I know not. the appointment is honorable to you in every appearance & will put you in a road leading to the service of your Country. I know you are equal to the task, nor could I forbear my testimony; it was due to a meritorious fellow Citizen, but I could not engage for your acceptance—therefore you are by no means bound by any promise or even seeming promise on my part—I shall be glad to converse with you before you finally determine aye or no. You may, if you please, receive from me an honest & faithful & I believe accurate state of our affairs foreign & domestic—no attempts will be made on my part to induce or dissuade—you will be left by me to judge for your self. I need say no more but that I long to embrace you.

I pray God to direct you
in all things & I commend you to
his protection

Henry Laurens.

I might have added one word more—I wait here only to know your resolution, when I receive that from your self my Horses will be put to the vehicle in which I mean to return to my own poor distressed wretched Country.—Capt. Roberts's conduct towards the Delegates of So. Carolina has not done the highest Credit to your recommendation—this as a hint.—5th. October—This address remaining on my Table unsealed gives me an opportunity to add,—the Salaries of the Ministers Plenipo: are £2500 St^s. p^r Ann. each—of their respective Secretaries £1000—in full of all expences &c. my protest against both stands on the Book

No!—Men who are sincerely devoted to the service of their Country will not accept of Salaries which will tend to distress it.

Lieut^t. Colonel Laurens.

Endorsed: H. L. to J. L.—
Philadelphia 2^d
October 1779—

[23.]

Addressed: Lieut^t— Colonel
John Laurens
Aid de Camp
to His Excellency General Washington
Boston *

Vestal, British Frigate
New Found Land 14th. [break]

My Dear Son.

the 15th. day after I parted with you [break several words long] Island, that is to say on the 3^d. Inst. the little Mercury [break several words long] captured by Capt George Keppel Commander of the Frigate [break several words long] mentioned, we arrived in this Harbor yesterday. Think of the best that circumstances will admit [break several words long] have a proper Idea of the very kind treatment [break several words long] has experienced, and remember, I hold my self & my [break several words long] indebted to Capt. Keppel.

Admiral Edwards who commands [break several words long] shoar & afloat has ordered the Fairy Sloop of War [break several words long] under the command of Capt Keppel. I am to be sent [break several words long] Mr. Young & Capt. Peckle will probably accompany me. through all the changing scenes of Life, you know my [break] nd.—I pray God to bless & protect you.

Henry Laurens.

* "Philadelphia", in Henry Laurens's handwriting, is stricken out and "Boston" inserted in another hand.

Capt Keppel very politely delivered me your Letters to Mr. Laurens, these & many other papers had through superabundant precaution [break several words long] on our part fallen into his hands.

16th. Admiral Edwards has been exceedingly [break several words long] to me, so have the several Commanders of Men of [break] in Port. Captains Barclay, Prescott, Lloyd, B [break] Stanhope &c &c—should their misfortune afford an [break] neither your self nor any of my friends will be [break] acknowledgements.

Lt. Col. John Laurens

Pennsylvania.

On board the Vestal at St. Johns 27th. Sept^r. 1780

On the 17th. Inst. Mr. Laurens in pretty good spirits em [break several words long] Fairy for England, and, as the wind has been fair, we [break several words long] at a safe Port. How long Captain Pickles and [break of a word or two] in here, we know not.

With the highest respect and esteem

I am Sir

Your Most humble & Obed^t. Serv^t.

Moses Young

Endorsed: St. Eustatius 21st. Decem^r. 1780. Received under cover & forwarded by

Sir

Your Most Obed^t. Serv^{ts}.

Via: Baltimore

Elliston & John Perot

Endorsed by Henry Laurens: H. L. to J. L.—

St. John's Newfoundland

14th Septem^r: 1780

[24.]

[In August, 1778, Lieut.-Col. Laurens was sent to Rhode Island to take part in the expelling of the British therefrom. The French fleet under Count d'Estaing was expected to co-operate with the Continental forces, but prior to the action of the 29th at Newport the Count

announced his intention of sailing to Boston without co-operating with the Americans. Col. Laurens went to the Count and protested with his usual vigor.¹⁰ The following is a fragment of a letter written by Col. Laurens at that time. It was probably addressed to his father, as it was found in the Laurens Collection, but the endorsement on the back is in the handwriting of Moses Young, sometime Secretary to Hon. Henry Laurens.]

everything—

I was going on but am called upon the most important business—A Council of War on board the French vessels have determined that the Squadron ought to go immediately to Boston to refit. I am going on board with a solemn protest against it Adieu

J Laurens

Endorsed: Colonel John Laurens
(no date)—

¹⁰ See Vol. II of this Magazine, pp. 271-272; Vol. III, p. 16.

RECORDS OF THE REGIMENTS OF THE SOUTH
CAROLINA LINE, CONTINENTAL ESTABLISH-
MENT.

[Continued from the July Number.]

[44.]

[COL. C. C. PINCKNEY TO MAJ. ISAAC HARLESTON.]

Addressed: Major Harleston¹⁹

Dear Major,

I herewith send you a permitt for Lieut: Brown to go to Town, and hope he will soon recover his health. I also return you the paper. If there is anything new since yesterday do communicate it. If you have occasion to write home Gen: Moultrie has a servant who will go that way tomorrow & will carry a Letter for you. I forgot to deliver you Miss Moultrie's Compts yesterday and to inquire for her whether you knew how Miss Ashby Harleston did, and whether she had had [break] ll fro [break] I remain

Yrs sincerely

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney.

Memorandum on back: Oct. 11th: 1780-

Ordered That each Officer do in Rotation attend to the drawing & distributing of all Rations for the space of one Week beginning wth: Captain Mazyck who will continue to Act 'till Thursday next. The Officers will Order the attendance of their Servants to assist in Conveying the provisions to Barracks as the most Convenient place to be Served out Sickness alone will be an excuse for escaping a Tour—when the next Officer in Succession is to Act

¹⁹ The following memorandum is written across the face: "A Ball Bees Wax. Enqr. for Hats— & of whom a Marquis may be borrowed."

[45.]

[A RETURN OF THE 1ST REGIMENT.]

Return of the First Regiment of South Carolina Prisoners of War at Haddrell's point, Friday Oct. 1780

Officers—		White Servants		Blacks	
Col: Ch: C: Pinckney		Isaac Fletcher		Toby	
Capt ^{ns} . Geo: Turner—		.....		Boatswain	
Simeon Theus		.....		Bacchus	
Joseph Elliott—		Andrew Smith			
William Hext—		Adam Miller		Jemmy	
Charles Lining—		.....		.....
Thomas Gadsden—		.....		Tom	
Lieut ^t . Alex ^r . Fraser		.....		Hector	
John Hamilton		.....		Cain	
John P. Ward		.....		Charles	
William Hazzard		.....		Billy	
Charles Brown		.....		Tom	
W ^m . Ward		.....		Gasper Brownguard	
Geo: Petrie		.....		Peter Dunwick	
James Kennedy		.....		.....
William Russell } James Keuny }		.....		Wexford	
Not in the Line				G. Turner,	
				Capt ⁿ . 1 st . Reg ^t . S ^c . Carl	

Sick in Count^y.

Endorsed: 1st. Reg^t.

[46.]

[A RETURN OF THE 2ND REGIMENT.]

Return of the S^c. Caro: 2^d. Rgt. prisoners of War at Had-
drells point Oct: 20th.. 1780—

Officers—	White Servants	Blk Servants—
Major Harleston—	Robert Gamble	.....
Cpts. Mazyck—	.....	Toney—
Warley—	.....
Shubrick—	.....	Blk boy—Peter.
Baker—	.....
Proveaux—	Sawyer—	.....
Mason—	.....	Cupid—
Gray—	Ferguson	
Lts—Foissin	Oliver—	
Kolb—	.....	York—
Langford	.....
Frierson	.....	Julius—
Ogier—	.....	.....
Evans—	.....	Peter—
Legare	Lamb	.....
Dunbar	Sparrow	.....
Hart—	.....	Joe—
Pay Mas ^r . Gray	.....	Tom—
Lt—Mazyck	.....	Robin—

J: Hart Adj: 2^d. Rgt.

[47.]

[A RETURN OF THE 2ND REGIMENT.]

Return of y^e So. Car. 2^d. Rgt. prisoners of War at Had-
drells point—Oct. 28th. 1780—

Officers—	White Servants	Black Servants
Major Harleston	Robert Gamble	
Cpts. Mazyck	.....	Peter
Warley	.....	.....
Shubrick	.....	Peter
Baker	.....	.....
Proveaux	.....	.....
Mason	.....	Cupid
Gray	Ferguson	
Lts. Foissin	Tho ^s . Oliver	
Kolb	.....	York
Langford	.....	.....
Frierson	.....	Julius
In Town Ogier	.....	.....
Evans	.....	Peter
Legare	Lamb	.....
Dunbar	Jn ^o Sparrow	
Hart	.....	Joe
Mazyck	.....	Robin
Pay Mas= Gray	.....	Tom

[48]

[A RETURN OF THE 3RD REGIMENT.]

Return of the Officers & Servants of the 3^d S^o. Cr. Regt
Now Prisoners of War at Hadrills Point 29 Oct^r. 1780—

.....
Lt. Col ^o . Henderson	.....	Nelson a Slave
Cap ^t . F. Warley	Sick in Town	
Cap ^t . Smith	.....	Peter MGrew soldier
Cap ^t . Jo ^s . Warley	present	Ja ^s . Swords D ^o Taylor
Cap ^t . Goodwyn	.....
Cap ^t . Buchanan	Sick in Town	Jn ^o . Campbell soldier
Cap ^t . Baker	.....	.....
Cap ^t . Farrer	.....	Jacob Bruncin Sol
Cap ^t . Liddell	.....	.....
Cap ^t . Pollard	.....	W ^m . Myrack D ^o
L ^t . Goodwyn	.....	W ^m . Partridge
L ^t . Smith	.....	Jn ^o . Peterkin
L ^t . MGwire	.....	Jo ^s . Williams
L ^t . Cap ^t . Milling	.....	.....
Doct ^r . Martin	.....	Cauldwell soldier
		Merry MGwire Adg ^t . 3 ^d Reg ^t
		Jn ^o . C: Smith Capt.

[49.]

[A RETURN OF THE 1ST REGIMENT.]

Return of the Officers & Servants of the first Regim^t. of
So. Caro: Nov^r. 10th /80

	Col: C C. Pinekney	Toby a Negro
	Capt ⁿ . Geo: Turner	Isaac Fletcher
	Simeon Theus—	Boatswain, a Negro
	Joseph Elliott—	Bacchus— d ^e .
	W ^m . Hext—	Andrew Smith
	Charles Lining—	Adam Miller
Sick in T.	Thomas Gadsden—	Jemmy a Negro
D ^e .	Lieut ^t . Alex ^r . Fraser	
	John Hamilton	Tom a Negro
Sick in Co ^r .	John P. Ward	Hector d ^e .
	W ^m . Hazzard	Cain d ^e .
D ^e . Town.	Charles Brown	Charles d ^e .
	William Ward	Billy d ^e .
D ^e . in Town.	George petrie	Tom d ^e .
	James Kennedy	Gasp: Brownguard
Not in y ^e line	{ W ^m . Russell	peter Dunwick
	{ James Kenny	Wexford a Negro
	G Turner	
	Capt ⁿ 1 st . Reg ^t So Car:	

Endorsed: Return
1st. Reg^t.

[50.]

[A RETURN OF THE 1ST REGIMENT.]

Weekly Return of the 1st. Reg^t. of So. Carolina at Had-
drell's — November 1780

Officers	Servants	Remarks
Col: Charles C. Pinckney	Toby (Slave)—	
Captains Geo: Turner	Isaac Fletcher	
Simeon Theus	Boatswain (Slave)	
Joseph Elliott	Bacchus (d°)	
William Hext	Andrew Smith	
Charles Lining	Adam Miller	
Thomas Gadsden	Jemmy (Slave)	Sick in Town
Lieut ^s . Alexander Fraser	.....	D°.
John Hamilton	Tom (d°)	
John Peter Ward	Hector (d°)	Sick Country
W ^m . Hazzard	Cain (d°)	
Charles Brown	Charles (d°)	D°. Town
William Ward	Billy (d°)	Sick Barracks
George Petrie	Tom (d°)	D°. Town
James Kennedy	Gaspar Brown	Guard D°. Barracks
James Kenny	Wexford (Slave)	{ Not in the line but returned in this Regim ^t
W ^m . Russell	Peter Dunwick	
	G Turner	
	Capt ⁿ 1 st . R ^t .	

[51.]

[A MUTILATED RETURN OF THE 1ST REGIMENT.]

	Elliott	Bacchus d°.
	Hext	And ^w . Smith
	Lining	Adam Miller
Sick in Town	Gadsden	Jemmy, Negro
	Lieu ^{ts} . Fraser	.....
	Hamilton	Tom, Negro
d°. Count ^y .	J. P. Ward	Hector, d°.
	Hazzard	Cain— d°.
Sick in Town	Charl. Brown	Charles d°.
	W ^m . Ward	Billy d°.
Sick Town	George petrie	Tom
	Kennedy	G. Brownguard
	{ W ^m . Russell	P. Dunwick
Not in y ^e Line	{ Ja ^s . Kenny	Wexford—
		G Turner
		Capt ⁿ 1 st . R ^t . So. Caro.

Subs. 4 absent

Capt. 1.....4 slaves absent

Endorsed: Return Say November 25th 1780

Waiters	{ Present
	{ Absent

[52.]

[LIEUTENANT GEORGE EVANS TO MAJOR ISAAC HARLESTON.]

Addressed: Major Harleston2^d. S. C. Reg^t.

Lieut. Evanss Compliments wait on Major Harleston beg the favor of his permission to go to Town L^t. Evans's Name has been upon the list at General Moultrie's ever since August and has been waiting patiently since for leave but have not been able to procure leave the Certificate will shew my situation which L^t. E. beg the Major to take notice of—

[*To be continued in the next number of this magazine.*]

SOUTH CAROLINA GLEANINGS IN ENGLAND.

Communicated by Mr. Lothrop Withington, 30 Little Russell Street,
W. C. London (including "Gleanings" by Mr. H. F. Waters,
not before printed).

[CONTINUED FROM THE JULY NUMBER.]

James Dunbarr, Doctor of Medicine, sometime in the island of Jamaica, presently in Forress. Will 18 May 1743; proved 2 August 1743. To prevent discords amongst my nearest friends and relations about my effects after my decease, I nominate and appoint Archibald Dunbarr of Dykeside, my Eldest Brother German, my Executor, Legator, and universall intromitor with all my effects real and personal in the Island of Jamaica or elsewhere to pay my debts and legacies, vizt: £50 to Walter Dunbar in South Carolina, my second Brother German, and a mourning ring of £5 value; £40 to George Dunbarr in York Town, Virginia, my third Brother German; a mourning ring value £10 to Alexander Grant, son to Thomas Grant of Astronomy, now in Kingston in Jamaica. "Subscribed these presents upon stamped paper at Forras before these witnesses: James Dunbarr, Surgeon in Forras, and James Dunbarr, Whig-maker there. James Dunbarr witnesses also to the original Note, James Dunbarr. Witness James Dunbarr, witness."

Boycott, 260.

Ralph Izard of Berkley County in Province of South Carolina. Will 13 September 1757; proved 18 May 1763. To my son Ralph Izard my plantation whereupon I now live called Burton, my land up the Cypress path left me by my father; also land left me by my brother Thomas Izard called Mount Boone, and my plantation on Cow Savannah bought from Dr. Rind, Mr. Queen, and Mrs. Golding; also plantation on Combabee river given to me by my father and my brother Thomas. To my son Walter Izard my plantation on Tomothy Savanna bought from Mr. James

Deveaux; also lands on Lady's Island left me by my brother Thomas. To my daughters Sarah and Rebecca Izard my plantation at Woomeraw left me by my father in law Joseph Blake Esqre and by my father Walter Izard Esqre. If Mrs. Galleghar should be living in my family at the time of my decease, £50 to her over and above such wages as may be due her. My two houses and two lots of land in Broad street, Charlestown, bought from Mr. Manigault and Mr. Ruthledge, to my son Ralph, he also to have liberty to take my negro dower Joe and all his family at their appraised worth. All the rest amongst my children, who are to have a liberal education and good upkeep till they are 21. My executors to sell to my son Ralph the plate marked R. I. Executors and guardians: my Brother in Law Daniel Blake and friends Henry Middleton and Benjamin Smith. Witnesses: John Butler, Newman Swallow, Charles Atkins.

Caesar, 236.

John Driffill of pon pon in State of South Carolina. Will 13 February 1789; proved 1 June 1797. To my sister Elizabeth Burks £30, and to the children of my said sister Elizabeth — pounds sterling of Great Britain. To my sister Mary, married to a man in the 66th Regiment belonging to the King of Great Britain, £30. To the children of my said sister Mary £30 to each of them. To my nephew Joseph Stow £100. To my brother William Driffel all my wearing apparel and £50. To my brothers Richard and Thomas Driffel and my sister Susan £21 between them. The residue of my estate between the children of my sisters Elizabeth and Mary. Executors to dispose of my negroes and other property not herein willed as they think most advantageous. Executors: my friends Lewis Morris, Henry Mulholland, William Serjeant. Witnesses: William McKimmey, William Crawford.

Exeter, 408.

George Miller, His Majesty's Consul to the Southern States of America, vizt: North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, heretofore resident at Charleston, but now and lately residing at Knightsbridge, County Middlesex. Will 8 January, 1797, proved 12 February, 1798. All my goods and estate, whatsoever and wheresoever situated, to my wife. In this bequest are comprehended all sums of money invested in my name in the Books of the Bank of England or any of the Public Funds of Great Britain, all my salary due as Consul, share of debt due in North Carolina to James Gibson and myself placed in the hands of Mr. Robert Donaldson of Fayetteville for collection, and whatsoever may be received by my nephew Mr. David Miller of Williamsburg in Virginia from John Cowper, executor of William Cowper, who was an executor of Staples Ivy deceased of Nansamond County, being a legacy left by him to his niece my late wife Mrs. Peggy Miller. Executors: My wife and my brother James Miller, Esqr., in the service of the East India Company in the Civil Line. My wife to offer some small token of remembrance to my brothers and sisters. To our faithful servant Alexander Stewart, 5 guineas. Witnesses: John Campbell, Eliza: Campbell. Codicil 15 June 1797. Retracts the bequest made to Alexander Stewart, requesting wife to give him up his note of hand of this day for £27 3s 6d. Walpole, 117.

John Perry, late of Island of Antigua in America, but now of Parish of St. James, Westminster. Will 24 June, 1708; proved 4 April, 1713. To the Parish of Youghall, where I was born, County Cork, Ireland, £300 to buy some lands, the rent of which to be distributed every year at the Church Door forever amongst such poor people of Youghall as the Bishop of the Diocese shall designate. To the Parish of Christ Church, County Cork, £100 current money of Ireland for the same purpose. The sum of £300 to be laid out in Antigua for the benefit of Parish of St. John's Antigua. To the Governor, Council, and Assembly of said

Ireland, £300 for the benefit of the Public Treasury. To my sister-in-law Mary Perry, relict of my deceased brother Samuel Perry, £30 a year for life. To my Sister Anne Osbourne, widow, and her two daughters, Mary Mills and Joyce Osbourne, £200 of money of Ireland each. To each grandchild of my said sister Osbourne which shall be living at my decease (except Jo: Freeman, son of James Freeman, to whom I have already given £100) £100 of money of Ireland. To my nephew Samuel Perry, £1000 money of Antegua out of such debts as shall be due to me in that Island. To my wife Anne, £100 per annum for life, all household stuff, plate, and furniture. To my daughter Anne Perry, £2000, being a debt due to me from Major Long of said Island, my house in St. John's Parish aforesaid, next to Major Long's Plantation, and £500. To my daughter Dorothy Perry, all money due to me from Patrick Brown, late of Antigua. To my daughter Elizabeth Perry, my half of the Plantation in the Parish of St. Mary's Antigua and £210. To my daughter Mary, all my right to my Plantation in South Carolina and £500. To my nephew Jonathan Perry, son of my Brother Edward Perry, £1000. To my Brother Edward Perry, £50 for mourning. To Archibald Hutchinson, Esq., £50. Captain John Perne, £10. All the rest to my wife and children. Guardians: Archibald Hutchinson, Brother Edward Perry, and my wife. Executors: my daughters Anne Perry and Dorothy Perrey and Brother Edward Perry. Witnesses: Christ Devonsheir, John Devonsheir, Christ Devonsheir, junior, all of Bristoll.

Leeds, 88.

Thomas Barton of Berkley County, South Carolina. Will 29 January 1731-2; proved 17 January 1734/5. To my son Thomas Barton 150 acres where he now dwelleth, but he is to pay a mortgage which lies in the hands of Captain John Vandrosse for £650 current money of South Carolina. To my beloved son William Barton 150 acres of Land upon the Head of the Land. To my beloved son John Barton 150

acres joyning to my dwelling house, House and all. To my son William two Negroes Sambo and Saterah by name. To my son John two slaves Indian Johnne and Prince. To my daughter Ann one Negro Wench named Lucey and 6 cows and calves of the plantation Mark. All my estate in England which came by the death of My Brother John Barton to be divided equally among my four children, Thomas, William, John and Anne Barton. Executors: Sons William and John Barton. Witnesses: Jonathan Stock, John Baker, Jno. Young.

Ducie, 3.

LANDGRAVE DANIEL AXTELL.

BY A. S. SALLEY, JR.

DANIEL AXTELL, a merchant of London, was granted lands in South Carolina about 1680¹ and, upon nomination of John Archdale, Esq., was elected a landgrave of Carolina by the Lords Proprietors, August 10, 1681.² He came to South Carolina about this time, but died within a year or two,³ his

¹ Carolina ss: pursuant to the Direccons of the Lords prop^{rs}: on this behalf you are to admeasure and lay forth unto Mr. Daniell Axtell of London March^t: one of y^e settlers of this province three thousand acres of land in som Convenient place not yett survey^d. or laid out to any other pson or use and if the same happen upon any Navigable river or river capable to be made Navigable you allowe onlie the fifth pte of the Depth thereof by the water side and a Certificate fully specifying the bounds and scituacon thereof you returne to us wth. all Convenient speed Dated y^e 13th. of December 1680

To Capt Maurice Mathews
Survey^r generall

Joseph West
Will fuller
John Smyth

(Warrant book 1672-1692, p. 196.)

May 3, 1681, "Daniell Axtell of London M^cchant" executed a power of attorney to "John Arnold at p^rsent in London now bound for Carolina in America" to enable him to sue or collect money due to Axtell by "Christopher Smith and John Fisher or any other pson or psons in Carolina." Nicholas Hayward, notary; Jacob Waight and Joseph Morton, Jr., witnesses. (Records of the governor of South Carolina, book 1672-1692, pp. 82-83.)

² "Public Records of South Carolina" (MS.), Vol. I., p. 12.

³ By a deed, dated July 31, 1684, John Boddycott conveyed one hundred acres of land on Ashley River to "Dame Rebecca Axtell the relict of the honourable Daniell Axtell one of the Landgraves of the province of Carolina deceased". (Conveyance book, 1683-1688.)

Daniel Axtell by his will made August 3, 1678, gave his "Eldest daughter Sibilla", £500., to be paid to her at twenty-one or marriage; gave son, Daniel, a like sum, to be paid him when twenty-one; gave daughter, Mary, a like sum to be paid her at twenty-one or marriage;

son, Holland, succeeding him as landgrave.⁴

Lady Rebecca Axtell, widow of Landgrave Daniel Axtell resided at her plantation, Newington, near the site of the present town of Summerville, for some years subsequent to the death of her husband.⁵ September 15, 1705, she was granted one thousand acres of land on the north side of Ashley River, bounded south by her own lands, east on Gershon Hawks and Moses Martin, north on James Ford and west on John Boisseau and James Ford.⁶

gave son, Holland, a like sum, to be paid when twenty-one; gave daughters, Rebecca, Elizabeth and Anne, like sums each at twenty-one or marriage; appointed wife, Rebecca, executrix and gave her all the remainder of his estate; appointed "faithfull friends Henry Danvers Esq^r: & Mr. William Bennington" assistants to his wife. Witnesses: Ann Cooper, Mary Catchpoull and Sara Hill. (Records of the governor of South Carolina, book 1672-1692, pp. 185-186.)

This will is also recorded in London, where it was proved July 2, 1687. It shows that his former place of residence was Stoke Newington, Middlesex, which was a part of London. (See Vol. IV of this magazine, p. 235.)

⁴ Carolina ss You are forthwith to Cause to be Admeasured and
Laid out unto Holland Axtell Esq^r Landgrave in
Holland Axtell Charles Towne observeing y^e Rules & Method Already
a towne Lott established for Laying out s^d: Towne and a Certificate
fully specify the Number & bounds thereof you are to
Returne to us with all Convenient speed & for yo^r soe
doeing this shall be yo^r: Warrant Dated this 23^d day
of feb^r 1683 4

To Maj^r Maurice Matthews John Godfrey Joseph Morton
Survey^r Generall Maur: Matthews John Moore

(Warrant book 1672-1692, p. 291.)

⁵ See pages 63, 67, 68, 76 and 77 of the April issue of this magazine.

⁶ Vol. 38 (copy), p. 498 of abstracts of grants, Sec. of State's office, Columbia.

Issue:

- I. Sibilla Axtell.
- II. Daniel Axtell.
- III. Mary Axtell, married — Cuthbert.
- IV. Holland Axtell.⁷
- V. Rebecca Axtell.
- VI. Elizabeth Axtell, *m.* Francis Turgis (issue), who dying⁸ she next married, in December, 1698, Governor Joseph Blake (issue); *d.* in 1725 or 1726.⁹
- VII. Anne Axtell, married John Alexander, and, after his death, Joseph Boone.¹⁰

⁷ By his will, made December 17, 1691, and proved before Governor Ludwell, May 4, 1692, "Holland Axtell of Carolina Landgrave," gave his mother, Rebecca Axtell, a negro man, named Guy, an Indian boy, named Nero, and all his cattle, horses, and ready money not otherwise bequeathed; gave brother-in-law, John Alexander, a diamond ring; gave brother-in-law, Francis Turgis, two cows, two calves, a mare and her colt, and a silver medal; gave sister, Anne Alexander, four silver salt cellars; gave sister, Mary Cuthbert £5. to buy a ring; gave Thomas Graves a cow and a calf, a pocket pistol and a hone. Witnesses: B. Waring, Elizabeth Waring and John Stevens. (Records of the Court of Ordinary of South Carolina, book No. 1., 1692-1700, p. 17.)

⁸ January 13, 1693-7, Elizabeth Turgis, Rebecca Axtell and William Cantey executed their bond to Governor Blake for Mrs. Turgis's faithful execution of her trust as executrix of the estate of Francis Turgis. Witness: Charles Odingsells. (Ibid, p. 285.)

⁹ See Vol. I of this magazine, pp. 156-157.

¹⁰ Mrs. Poyas ("the Ancient Lady") says (*Days of Yore*, p. 12) that Joseph Boone married Anne, daughter of Governor Blake, but in the next paragraph she quotes from Mrs. Boone's will: "I give to my beloved nephew, the Hon. Joseph Blake, Esqr., my Dorchester plantation given me by my mother, called Mount Boone." As this Hon. Joseph Blake was the only son of Governor Blake it is hard to see how Mrs. Boone could be the daughter of Governor Blake and the aunt of his son at the same time. As shown by the records she was the maternal aunt of the younger Joseph Blake. (See also p. 82 *ante*.)

HISTORICAL NOTES.

GENERAL ANDREW WILLIAMSON.—“Yesterday died, at his plantation at Horse Savannah, Andrew Williamson, Esq; late a Brigadier-General in the service of this State. He rendered eminent services to this country in suppressing its internal enemies at the beginning of the late war, and commanded on the successful expedition against the Cherokee Indians in the year 1776. His excellent endowments as a tender and affectionate parent, a sincere friend, and an honest man are what makes him no less lamented by his friends and family, than regretted by those who revere and admire such amiable virtues.” [More eulogy.] “His remains will be interred this afternoon from the house of Mr. John Walker, in Meeting-street.”—*The Charleston Morning Post, and Daily Advertiser*, March 22, 1786.

CAPTAIN GEORGE COGDELL.—“Died.] On Thursday last, at Georgetown, after a short illness of six days, captain *George Cogdell*, late an officer in the 5th continental regiment of this state.”—*The City Gazette & Daily Advertiser*, Monday, March 9, 1792.

BENJAMIN ELLIOTT.—“Sunday last died at his plantation in St. Paul’s Parish, BENJAMIN ELLIOTT, Esq; much lamented by a numerous acquaintance.”—*The Charleston Morning Post and Daily Advertiser*, Wednesday, January 18, 1786.

THE ESTATE OF A SCHOLAR OF PROVINCIAL DAYS.—“To BE SOLD, all the personal estate of the late Doctor *Dale*, at his late dwelling house in *Church-street*: The sale to begin with his LIBRARY on tuesday the 22d day of this instant *January*, at 4 o’clock in the afternoon precisely, and to continue every afternoon ’till all the said LIBRARY is sold, a catalogue of which may be seen at Mr. *Gordon’s*, Mrs. *Lloyds*, and Mrs. *Woolford’s*: And on thursday morning at 9 o’clock, the slaves, cattle and stock, among whom are several very val-

uable negroes: And the household goods, on tuesday the 29th instant. At which times everything will be sold, punctually to the hours and days mentioned. All persons indebted to the estate of the said Doct. Dale, are desired forthwith to pay the same, and all persons having any demands on the said estate, are desired to bring them to

HANNAH DALE, Executrix."—

Postscript to *The South-Carolina Gazette*, January 7, 1751.

ONE OF DR. COOPER'S WITTICISMS.—"Tom. Cooper, (a democrat) now of Northumberland, Pennsylvania,¹ formerly of Birmingham, England, says 'the federalists read little, and know less!'"—*Charleston Courier*, Monday, June 18, 1804.

COLONEL WILLIAM HARDEN.—"Last Monday died, in Prince William's Parish, Indian Land, greatly lamented by all who knew him, Col. William Harden, one of the Honorable House of the Senate, and Ordinary for that District."—*The South-Carolina Gazette & Public Advertiser*, Saturday, December 3, 1785.

THE CAPTURED LAURENS PAPERS.—In his narrative of his capture while on his way to Holland in 1780 and his imprisonment in the Tower of London (*Collections of the South-Carolina Historical Society*, Vol. I, pp. 18 and 20) Henry Laurens speaks of "a trunk of papers, chiefly waste", which he had had put upon board the *Mercury*, in which he sailed, "intending to garble the whole at sea, and preserve the few which" he "should think worth saving." He further says that when the flag of the *Mercury* was hauled down to the British frigate that these papers were put in a bag and thrown overboard, but that the bag was hooked up by the British and that later for arranging the papers "the British Ministry gave Mr. Galloway, according to report, £500 sterling, and were at farther expense to bind in rough calf, gild and letter them in 18 folio volumes, and afterwards returned

¹ Later of South Carolina.

the whole to Mr. Laurens again." The following interesting reference to those papers, which are now in the Laurens Collection of the South Carolina Historical Society, was published in *The South-Carolina and American General Gazette* (Pro-British) of Saturday, December 23, 1780:

"A correspondent observes, 'There can be no doubt but the papers found with Mr. Laurens, and most probably his own examination, will give the ministry such knowledge of his correspondents in South-Carolina as may be productive of very important orders, with regard to the admission or nonadmission as subjects, of all such persons on parole as have hitherto hesitated, whether they shall wait any longer for an opportunity to fight or betray us, or assume the appearance of loyalty of British subjects.'"

THE FIRST LANDGRAVE SMITH'S SECOND MARRIAGE.—The following record of the license and marriage certificate for the first Landgrave Smith's second marriage appears on page 298 of the book of records of the Governor's office for the years 1672-1692, where it was "Entered the 2^d Aprill 1688—"

Carolina ss—

James Colleton, Esq Landgrave and Governo^r: of That part of the Province of Carolina that lyes from Cape Feare South and West.

To Mr. William Dunlopp

You are hereby Lycenced To joine together in the holy Estate of Matrimony These two persons following vizt Thomas Smith Esq and Sabina de Vignon Dowager Van wernhaut provided there be noe lawfull Lett shewne to you to the contrary: Given under my hand and Seale at Armes at Charles towne This twentieth day of March in the yeare of our Lord One Thousand six hundred Eighty and seaven Ano R R^r 4^o.

James Colleton

Carolina ss.

These are to certifie to all whome it may concerne That in pursuance of a Licence to me directed by the hono^{ble} James Colleton Landgrave and Governo^r: of this Province bearing date the Twentieth of this instant I have this day joyned in marriage Thomas Smith Esq and Sabina de Vignon Dowager Van wern hout In presence of Bernard Schenckingh Esq high Sherriffe of Berkley County William Smith

Thomas Smith James Barbott gentlemen & divers others In Testimony whereof I have signed these p'sents this 22 day of March 1688
Will Dunlop

Signed in p'sence of Us whoe alsoe did see th above Marriage Celebrated

Barnard Schenckinigh Thomas Smith Junior James Barbott William Smith Anna Cornelia Van Myddagh.

July 23, 1687, "hono^{ble}": James Colleton Landgrave & Govern^r. of that part of the province of Carolina that lyes South & West of Cape fear" granted letters of administration "To Sabina Devignon Relict of John L^d. Van Aersien Van Wern haut", "late of this Province Deced".

The inventory of the personal estate shows property appraised at £861. 8. 1. by James Barbott, Abraham Barbott and "Tho: Smith" and is headed:

"A true and pfect Inventory of the goods and Chattles late belonging to the Lord Van Wern houd deceased in Carolina taken and appraised by us whose Names are hereunto Annexed this 24th October 1687." (Records of the Governor of South Carolina, book 1672-1692, pp. 290-292.)

THE DEATH OF GENERAL MAXCY GREGG.—The following contemporary newspaper items fix the time of General Maxcy Gregg's death, which is erroneously given in several published sketches of him, and show the full text of his heroic telegram to Governor Pickens, a portion of which is quoted on the tombstone over his grave. Judge Haskell's recollection of the facts verifies the telegram to which his name is signed, but Major Harry Hammond claims that the telegram sent by General Gregg to Governor Pickens was dictated to him (Hammond) and that, according to his recollection of it, it was different from that which appears in *The Charleston Mercury*:

"THE REMAINS OF GEN. GREGG arrived in Richmond on Monday evening, by the 9 o'clock train, and were immediately sent to Columbia. Governor PICKENS sent to the House of Representatives on Tuesday morning, before which body it was read, the following telegram received on Monday night, the 15th, from Gen. GREGG himself.

It was dictated at 6 p. m, the 13th instant, the day of the battle, and near the battle field:

'To His Excellency Governor Pickens:

'I am severely wounded, but the troops under my command have acted as they always have done, and I hope we have gained a glorious victory. If I am to die now, I give my life cheerfully for the independence of South Carolina, and I trust you will live to see our cause triumph completely.

'MAXCY GREGG.' ''—*The Charleston Mercury*, Thursday, December 18, 1862.

"The President laid before the Senate the following telegraphic communication:

'Richmond, December 16, 1862

'To His Excellency Governor Pickens:

'Brigadier General Maxcy Gregg died at 5 o'clock on the morning of the 15th inst., near the battle field upon which he fell. His remains will reach Columbia on the morning of the 18th.

A. C. HASKELL,

Captain & A. A. G.' ''—Pro-

ceedings of the State Senate published in *The Charleston Mercury* of Saturday, December 20, 1862.

MANUSCRIPTS WANTED.—Members of the Society are requested to procure for the Society books, maps, portraits and manuscripts that will throw light upon the history of South Carolina. All gifts will be cared for by the Librarian of the Society. Any old letters, land records, or account books will furnish material for a student to draw from.

NECROLOGY.

THOMAS RILEY MCGAHAN, a member of the South Carolina Historical Society, died at his residence, No. 21 King Street, in the city of Charleston on Tuesday afternoon, September 26, 1905, at 3.45 o'clock. He was born in Madison, Georgia, April 19, 1825, his parents being James McGahan and Eleanor Riley McGahan, both of whom came to this country from Ireland. He received his education in the schools of Madison, which at that time was one of the most flourishing towns in Middle Georgia. His father died in 1837 and young McGahan went to Fayette County, Georgia, where he engaged in the mercantile business and remained until 1849. In that year the "gold fever" struck the country and Mr. McGahan was one of the "forty-niners" who went to California in search of gold. He went to New Orleans, from there across the Isthmus of Panama, and thence to San Francisco aboard a sailing vessel. He remained in California for eighteen months, when his health failed and he was advised to go East. He returned to his home in Georgia, where he slowly recovered from the strain to which his system had been subjected while enduring countless hardships in the rugged West. After staying a short while at his home in Madison County he went to Atlanta and became connected with a dry goods house. He remained in Atlanta until February, 1853, when he came to Charleston and secured employment with the clothing house of Samuel C. Dunn & Co. He afterwards became connected with the house of Rankin, Pulliam & Co. and remained with that establishment until the owners decided to move to New York. He then secured employment as a salesman with the firm of Hyatt, McBurney & Company, and later became a member

of the firm. He remained with this concern until the State's Rights War broke out. He enlisted in the Calhoun Guards. On account of ill-health he was forced to leave this command and then became a blockade runner. He was on the *Cecille* when she sank and was on the Confederate cruiser *Fox* when she ran into Galveston in broad daylight through the Federal blockade.

After the war Mr. McGahan returned to Charleston and became connected with the firm of Edwin Bates & Co. In 1884 the firm's name was changed to McGahan, Bates & Co. Later the name was changed to McGahan, Brown & Evans, and later the name was again changed to T. R. McGahan & Co. In 1900 Mr. McGahan sold out to the Johnson-Crews Co.

At the time of his death Mr. McGahan was the president of the Exchange Banking and Trust Company, a director of the Hibernia Trust and Savings Bank, vice-president of the Drake-Inness-Green Shoe Company and vice-president of the Standard Hat Company.

He had been Chairman of the Board of Health for thirty-three years. He was an ex-president of the Hibernian Society, ex-president of the Chamber of Commerce, in which capacity he served about twenty-three years. At one time he was a member of the Board of Harbor Commissioners.

He was one of the originators of the Drainage Commission movement and brought all of his influence to bear in getting the bills through the Legislature. He was also associated with Dr. Lawrence, founder of the Isle of Palms.

He is survived by three children, Dr. Charles F. McGahan, of Aiken, S. C., and Bethlehem, N. H.; Mrs. Robert A. Smythe, of Charleston, and Miss Emma McGahan, of Charleston.

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